

A NEW SPECIES OF SPERGULARIA.

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IN the central portion of New York State, on the plain lying between Lake Ontario and the plateau region farther south, are found numerous salt springs which render the soil in the vicinity decidedly brackish. In a lesser degree the influence of the salt extends through the swamps and waters of that whole region. To this factor is largely due the very interesting assembly of coastal plants found in Central New York. Some are distinctly maritime, as *Ruppia maritima*, *Najas marina*, *Chenopodium rubrum*, *Leptochloa fascicularis* and *Ranunculus Cymbalaria*, while others are coastal in nature but less distinctly maritime, as *Hibiscus Moscheutos*, *Phragmites communis*, *Listera australis*, *Potamogeton filiformis* and *Carex alata*. In desiccated places on the salt flats and bordering the salty pools Spergularias occur often in considerable abundance. Plants of this genus are found also around the salt works at Syracuse, N. Y., about thirty miles distant toward the east. In a paper on the Spergularias of northeastern North America, Fernald and Wiegand (RHODORA xii. 157, 1910) noted that the species at Syracuse was *S. marginata* (DC.) Kit. not known elsewhere from North America. Since that time the writer has collected both *S. marginata* and *S. salina* at Syracuse. He was therefore greatly surprised to find that the Spergularia at the stations farther west was not the same. A study of the material in the Gray Herbarium has shown that these plants are unlike any species in that collection from America, and a diligent search failed to show any similar foreign species. It is possible that they represent a local endemic species in this region, though this is not usual in a glaciated country like New York State. It has seemed desirable to call the attention of botanists to this plant in the hope that it may be found elsewhere. The species may be described as follows:

S. alata sp. nov. magnitudine habituque *S. leiospermae* (Kindb.) Schmidt et *S. salinae* J. & C. Presl simillima, verisimiliter annua vel biennis glabra vel in pedunculis et rarissime etiam in internodiis superioribus sparse glandulari-pubescentibus; stipulis late deltoideo-ovatis acutis; bracteis foliaceis; petalis quam sepala brevioribus roseis; staminibus 4-6; sepalis ovatis vel oblongo-ovatis plerumque obtusis quam capsula magna (5-7 mm. longa) dimidio vel saltim

quarta parte brevioribus; pedicellis infimis maturitate 7-14 mm. longis; seminibus 0.7-0.8 mm. longis irregulariter ovalibus saepissime omnibus alatis, alis tenuibus erosis.—Brackish soil about salt springs and salt ponds in Central New York. Cayuga County; salt pond west of Howland Island, 1917, *Metcalf & Wiegand*, no. 8064, and 1919, *Eames, Randolph & Wiegand*, no. 12005; salt flats east of Montezuma Village, 1916, *Metcalf & Wiegand*, no. 6406 (TYPE in Gray Herb.), and 1919, *Eames, Randolph & Wiegand*, no. 12004.

This plant differs from *S. marginata* (DC.) Kit. in the thinner erose wing of the seeds, in the more glabrous stems, more foliaceous bracts, and probably also in the annual root. From *S. salina* J. & C. Presl it differs in the more glabrous stems, more foliaceous bracts, longer pedicels, larger capsules, and non-papillose, winged seeds. From *S. leiosperma* (Kindb.) Schmidt it may be distinguished by the longer pedicels, larger capsules, and winged seeds. The seeds of the last two species are rarely winged. In appearance the plant most resembles *S. marginata*, probably because of the large capsules and long pedicels.

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A CORRECTION.—Through an error, *Littorella uniflora* was reported in the October issue of RHODORA (xxi. 191) as collected at "The Gut," South Hero, Vermont. The plant in question was *Myriophyllum tenellum*, which is occasional in the state according to the Flora of Vermont.—MRS. NELLIE F. FLYNN, Burlington, Vermont.

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